## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.      (Currently Amended)  A method for managing data, comprising the steps of:

creating a parameter file that identifies database fields;

establishing a link with at least one database;

importing data from fields in the database that are identified in the parameter file;

grouping the imported data into at least one ~~column in a spreadsheet user interface~~ category;

storing the imported data as records in at least one internal database;

linking the imported data to corresponding earlier stored records and/or groupings;

selecting at least one ~~group~~ category for viewing ~~via said spreadsheet user interface~~;

retrieving the records from the selected ~~groups~~ categories; and

displaying statistical information about the retrieved records by the selected ~~group in said~~ categories in a spreadsheet user interface.


2.      (Original)  The method of claim 1, wherein the imported data is linked to corresponding imported data by a tight link.

3.    (Currently Amended)  The method of claim ~~2~~ 12, wherein the <u>imported</u>

<u>data is linked to corresponding imported data by a</u> tight link <u>that</u> corresponds to an

access number and/or a patent number.


4.    (Canceled)


5.    (Original)  The method of claim 1, wherein the groupings of the data

are chosen by the user.


6.    (Original)  The method of claim 1, wherein the groupings are listed in

categories named by the user.


7.    (Currently Amended)  The method of claim ~~4~~ 12, wherein data imported

from at least one database ~~provide~~ <u>provides</u> information ~~to~~ <u>about</u> each of the patents

or documents cited for a particular patent or group of patents.


8.    (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 1, comprising a plurality

of internal databases that each stores a predetermined category of imported data.


9.    (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 1, wherein a said

parameter file is created, prior to importation of data, which contains various

categories of bibliographic data for an individual record.

10.    (Original)  The method of claim 1, wherein the data is displayed in a spreadsheet format in accordance with a user's preference selection.

11.    (Original)  The method of claim 1, wherein the displayed data can be manipulated by a user in order to view the data most relevant to the user's needs.

12.    (Previously Presented)  The method of claim 1, wherein the imported data pertains to patents.

13.    (Currently Amended)  A system for acquiring and presenting data, comprising:

a computer that establishes a link with a database and imports data from fields in the database that are identified in a parameter file,

a memory that stores the imported data in at least one grouping that corresponds to a ~~column in a spreadsheet user interface~~ designated category of data;

an internal parameter that links corresponding data with each other to form a record of data;

a selection component that allows a user to select, ~~via said spreadsheet user interface,~~ particular data of a record and the format of the data for display; and

a presentation device that displays statistical information about the selected data ~~via said~~ in a spreadsheet user interface by designated category.

14.    (Original)  The system of claim 13, wherein the imported data is bibliographic data related to patents.

15.    (Currently Amended)  The system of claim ~~13~~ 14, wherein the data is linked by the internal parameter according to access number and/or patent number.

16.    (Canceled)

17.    (Canceled)

18.    (Original)  The system of claim 13, wherein data may be marked by the user with an indication of priority.

19.    (Currently Amended)  The system of claim ~~13~~ 14, wherein the data imported includes the number of references cited to a patent.

20.    (Currently Amended)  A computer readable medium containing a program which executes the following steps:

   creating a parameter file that identifies database fields;

   establishing a link with at least one database;

   importing data from fields in the database that are identified in the parameter file;

   grouping the imported data into at least one ~~column in a spreadsheet user interface~~ category;

storing the imported data as records in at least one internal database;

linking the imported data to corresponding earlier stored records and/or groupings; and

in response to selection ~~via said spreadsheet user interface~~ of at least one group for viewing, retrieving the records from the selected group and displaying statistical information about the records by the selected group in ~~said~~ a spreadsheet user interface.

21. (New) The method of claim 12, further including the steps of:

detecting user selection of a cell in said spreadsheet user interface that contains a statistic about the retrieved records; and

in response to said selection, displaying citation information about the patents represented by said statistic.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein said spreadsheet user interface includes a column of descriptions of categories in respective rows.

23. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein said statistical information comprises the number of patents in a category represented in a row or column of the spreadsheet user interface.

24. The system of claim 14, wherein said statistical information comprises the number of patents in a category represented in a row or column of the spreadsheet user interface.